

**RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

(Approving the Release of One Female Mexican Wolf)

- WHEREAS,** in 1998, the Tribal Council appointed a Mexican Wolf Task Force to look at issues impacting the Tribe concerning the reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf in eastern Arizona; and
- WHEREAS,** that same year, Tribal Council was advised by staff of entries by the Mexican Wolf onto Tribal lands and concluded that it would allow wolves to remain on Tribal lands without pursuing removal, and that the Tribe would pursue a 638 Contract or Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to monitor and manage the wolves that may come onto Tribal lands; and
- WHEREAS,** in the year 2000, the Tribal Council and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service approved the Mexican Wolf Management Plan which identified objectives and goals dealing with wolf management on Tribal lands, including future discussion of potential releases of wolves on the Reservation after the program was established and evaluated; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the plan and the Cooperative Agreement between the Tribe and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service that was approved by the Tribal Council in 2002, Tribal staff have implemented monitoring and provisions under the plan and have evaluated the program's success to date and now come before the Tribal Council with a proposal to release a female wolf, only as a replacement, for the Hon-Dah Pack which lost its alpha female; and
- WHEREAS,** members of the Mexican Wolf Task Force have advised the Tribal Council that the introduction would be beneficial for enhancement of tourism, recreation activities, ecosystem health, and control of other predators; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation-Sensitive Species and Mexican Wolf staff have met with the Mexican Wolf Task Force and the Turkey Creek Livestock Association representatives, and all entities have provided comments and have agreed to the release of Mexican Wolf Female #613 for the replacement of the alpha female which was killed by another predator (mountain lion); and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation Division staff and members of the Mexican Wolf Task Force have determined that any wolf released on the Reservation should be collared and every wolf on the Reservation that is currently not collared, be collared, so that they can be more closely monitored; and
- WHEREAS,** the Mexican Wolf Task Force, the Turkey Creek Livestock Association members, and the Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation Division agree that the site near the KL

Ranch, which had been previously selected and approved by the Tribal Council, is the best location for this release because of a year-round prey base (elk), the least cattle conflicts, remoteness of the location, and the potential for the least contact between wolves and humans; and


WHEREAS, Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation staff shall follow the directive prescribed by Tribal Council that the Livestock Associations, concerned Elders, and other interested and concerned public members and entities be kept informed and updated via meetings and news releases to have concerns discussed, addressed, and mitigated to the best extent possible.

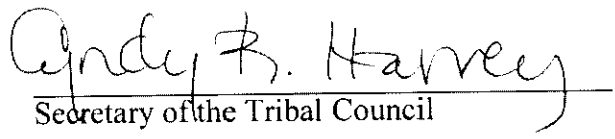
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that:

1. The release of Mexican Wolf Female #613 on the Reservation at the KL Ranch site, using a temporary soft release mesh pen, is hereby approved.
2. The Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation Division and the Mexican Wolf Task Force is directed to evaluate the release of Female Wolf #613 on the same yearly basis as the previous members of the Hon-Dah Pack and report back to the Tribal Council with recommendations as to the success of said releases and their appropriateness in reaching the goals set in the Mexican Wolf Management Plan.

The foregoing resolution was on JANUARY 6, 2005 duly adopted by a vote of EIGHT for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (c), (f), (g), (h), (i), (s), (t), and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

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JAN 11 2005
Tribal Council


ACTING Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council